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Dear all,

It has been another great week at SMGP with children really trying their best in their termly assessments. classes. There was lots of fun learning taking place too- Reception were playing all sorts of exciting number games, Y1 were designing exciting fruit kebabs that they will make next week, Y2 were starting to learn their Christmas songs, Y3 learnt about Greek weaponry, Y4 researched America before their trip to the American Museum next week, Y5 followed up on their super topic trip to the SS Great Britain, and Y6 met with Bath Spa students who discussed aspirations and possible career paths with them. Reach for the stars Year 6 and follow your dreams! Other highlights:

- Thank you to Sainsbury's and the PTA, and all who attended, the Quiz Night on Monday. Over £100 was raised.
- The Halloween disco also raised nearly £500, which will also be going towards developing outside play equipment.
- Music around the school is getting better each week- drumming, ukulele, recorder and composing in Ks2 classes, along with all sorts of musical experiences in KS1. It is becoming a real strength of the school.
- Open Day was extremely positive- the feedback from those who visited was 100% positive. They thought children were polite, relationships between adults and children were really good, displays looked lovely, the children were focussed in class and were generally impressed. Good work everyone!

'Whoops-a-Daisy Angel'



A Christmas Nativity concert

**THUNK** Also, we will sometimes be putting questions (called 'thunks') on the newsletter that it'd be great if you could talk through with your children- it will help them develop their speaking and listening skills, and hopefully be a bit of fun... So:

*If you had three wishes, what would they be and why?*

#### News items:

1. **Christmas Nativity:** Infant Nativity with Years R, 1 and 2. The dress rehearsal will be 17<sup>th</sup> December, and performances will be 9:30 on 18<sup>th</sup> December and 2pm on 19<sup>th</sup> December.

**Tickets: IMPORTANT!** to buy tickets for the Christmas Performance, please write your **child's name and class on an envelope with the number of tickets you require and enclose the correct money. Please either post in red post box in office or give to class. Tickets will be returned to you via your child. Adult ticket £1.00 Child Ticket 50p. Thank you.**

2. **PTA meeting:** The next meeting will be at 2pm, Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December in the Dining Hall. Please do come along to support- our PTA are working really hard and there have been lovely events this term. Let's really help as a community. Thank you! It creates fun events for children (and adults!), and raises valuable funds for our school's play equipment fundraising and other enriching projects.

Winter Wellbeing Tip #2  
Try drinking warm water with a slice of lemon - it's an ideal way to start your day as it cleanses your system

3. **Christmas carols:** All children will be singing carols at 2:15 on 21<sup>st</sup> December- please come along!
4. **Hats and gloves:** Please ensure these are named so they don't get lost. Thank you.
5. Mrs Barrow our school librarian would like to remind families to return any **overdue library books** and pay for any lost ones. Many thanks.
6. **Doodle Maths:** Doodle maths is a nationally proven and fun way of developing children's maths. Please encourage your children to play at home- it's great! You may require an update to the software, so the icons should look like the picture to the right. I have also attached a helpful update document with this newsletter, as I have heard some children appear to have had stars mysteriously disappear? I spoke with Doodle Maths who said this could be an issue if children use the app offline, and then use a different device online (**helpsheet attached!**). Miss Jones says: Keep doodling! (Screen safety point: A guide is half an hour a day is plenty!)



**Top Doodling Class:**  
**Willow with 4296 DoodleStars**

**Top Doodlers (all have earned over 500 DoodleStars):**

**Wasim, Chelsea, Liam H, Leonora, Bobbi, Ishaq, Callum L, Jacob B, Callum J, Antonio, Bethanie, Charlie B, Maya M, Anisha and Finlay.**

**CONGRATULATIONS to all of you for working so hard - it really will make a difference to your learning.  
Keep DOODLING**

7. **MCC Christmas fair:** Will be 1<sup>st</sup> December in the KS2 Hall, from 11am to 1pm. Please do come along and support if you can.
8. **Ice/ cold weather:** Please be careful when walking to school. We are very fortunate that Mr Kinver is on site to grit icy areas, but with such a vast site, please do take care when the weather is cold.
9. **Open Morning:** Thanks also to Y6 tour guides for being brilliant!



**Important school dates:**

- **13<sup>th</sup> Dec: Children's Christmas lunches**
- **14<sup>th</sup> Dec: Christmas dress-up PTA event- dress in something Christmassy and EITHER bring a £1 donation OR cakes for the after school cake sale please, which is 3.30-4.30 in the Dining Hall. Thank you!**
- **20<sup>th</sup> Dec: Children's afternoon Christmas parties**

**Wishing you all a lovely weekend from Mr Stone and all at St Martin's Garden Primary.**